

Today brings the Spring 1 half-term to a close and also marks the halfway point in the academic year. Please enjoy reading this week's update newsletter which focuses on our Spanish curriculum as we break for the holidays. Please enjoy a great half-term and we look forward to seeing you return on **Monday 23rd February.**



Blossom
Federation



Daubeney
Primary
School

Home learning conversations

Golden Expectation of the Week: **Always be in control of your behaviour**

Word of the Week: **Growing Together**

Curriculum Feature – Our **Spanish** curriculum offers pupils an ambitious progression from EYFS right through to Year 6. Children begin their language journey with simple words, learning through stories and songs and gaining confidence in simple conversations. By Upper Key Stage 2, pupils apply secure grammar and pronunciation to communicate with growing independence. A strong CLIL (Content and Integrated Language Learning) approach enriches pupils' experiences even further. Subjects such as Geography, Science, History, Art and Music, are learnt through Spanish - helping pupils to strengthen cognitive skills, deepening subject knowledge and building meaningful, real-world connections to Spanish. Our pupils also benefit from exciting enrichment opportunities both locally and beyond. A recent highlight is our Turing funded visit to Tenerife, where pupils work with our partner school and experience authentic Spanish language and culture first-hand.

We also maintain a strong focus on smooth transition. Through collaboration with a local secondary school, KS4 students lead engaging activities for our older pupils, boosting their confidence and preparing them effectively for KS3 Spanish. Access the link below to read more about our Spanish Curriculum and our Little Linguists!

<https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/curriculum/spanish>

Looking back – We started the week with a standard teaching and learning day for our pupils. To see what this looks like please visit our highlights tab. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/highlights>

We also hosted a **Daubeney Village PCTA** meeting on Monday evening, thank you to all who attended and who contribute to making the village a truly magical one. Tuesday saw our **Little Linguists** visit the BFI as a reward for their hard work! Our **CWIS worker**, Karolina, met with some families to offer support and advice. This is a great provision here at Daubeney that I encourage you to explore. Tuesday evening was when our **Curriculum & Standards (C&S)** governors met at Sebright to challenge and support us in their inimitable way! Our Y1's ventured off to the London Stadium on Wednesday and our Y5's had a second visit from **London School of Economics (LSE)**. We also had a **Parent Talk** from Emeka (AKA Max and Alden's dad) about his job as Head of Communications at Asos. Thursday was our **DT WOW Day** and our **Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO's)** delivered a 'stay safe' presentation to Y1. There was also a magnificent **Comedy Night** in the evening for the village. We conclude the week and the half-term with our usual Golden Achievers assembly and Forest School. It's been a great week 😊

Looking forward - Please visit our online calendar to stay abreast of all things Daubeney. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/about-us/calendar>

Staff Feature – Hola a todos. My name is Sara Alonso, and I feel incredibly fortunate to support language learning across the Blossom Federation. I began my teaching career in 2010, and since then I've had the privilege of teaching Spanish and French in a variety of secondary and primary schools across the UK.

Earlier in my career, I also taught English as a Foreign Language in Ibiza, Spain—where I was lucky enough to live for a while and work with learners of different ages, levels and backgrounds. These experiences truly shaped my belief that languages open doors in so many ways: academically, personally, and culturally. Now, as Federation Spanish Lead, my aim is simple: to make language learning enjoyable, inclusive and meaningful for every child. I'm excited to help our pupils grow in confidence and discover a love of languages that will stay with them for years to come.



Pupil Feature – Little Linguists

Our Little Linguists are an enthusiastic team of young language ambassadors who bring an extra buzz to language learning across the school. Passionate about all things linguistic, they help inspire their classmates by promoting a love of languages in fun and creative ways. From supporting language-themed activities and leading simple games, to helping at cultural celebrations such as **Mother Language Day** or **European Day of Languages**, they play a key role in making languages exciting and accessible for everyone.

This new team builds on the success of our previous **Spanish Champions**, now rebranded and expanded to celebrate and support all languages across our diverse school community.

Their warm encouragement and inclusive approach give other pupils the confidence to explore new languages and discover the joy of communication. The Little Linguists' energy, leadership and enthusiasm helps to create a school culture here language learning truly comes alive!

House Keeping – Spring Half-term holiday

This half-term if you're not going away and are considering what to do to occupy the children access the link below to the **Love Hackney** newspaper and read pages 30-33 for some ideas some of which are free!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B5SE-oxaLOfvUKOndMXLkohiOWMHvyZ/view>

Have a look at what one of our families, the Millars, get up to during the holidays - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c1wzvr30ly5o>

Looking ahead we will be hosting our Spring **Parent Consultations** on **Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March 2026**. We will share the booking link with you when we return for the Spring 2 half-term.

To confirm we return to school on Monday 23rd February

And the final message is to note that we are hosting our **Movie Afternoon** on Thursday 26th February www.pta-events.co.uk/daubeneypcta



Farewell/ goodbye –

Yours sincerely,

Mr Gregory Logan, Head of School & Mr Robin Warren, Executive Head Teacher